

CARRIER'S ADDRESS.

JANUARY 1, 1856.

KIND READERS!—I have already told you the news of the year past; and that which is to come, lo! will you not find it in the Chronicle, weekly? Wherefore, instead of boring you about Turkey and Russia, Kansas and Congress, I will offer you as a New Year's gift, an Epic Poem!

The Annals of Longtown.

When UNION, formed by Snyder's hand From realms of Old Northumberland, Became a County by herself, Spare she was in men and pelf.

To make th' division set complete, They must locate the County seat. The north side, drained by Buffalo, Averred the best of sites they'd show;

Upon this site, by "compromise," (That hateful mould of truth and lies.) The Court House site was first located, And by the Law the taxes laid.

Time rolled along. Longtown became A place of note, New Brin by name, With two long streets, crossed by five more, And dwelling houses two, three scores,

With all their chances, Longtown hill Was doleful, solitary still; Its streets, perfumed with verdant grasses, Food furnished for their oves and asses,

Subsisted thus for forty years, They'd grown above all qualities and fears, In fatness waxed, they proudly kick'd, As did of old the graceless wick-ed.

By public meeting, vote, or speech, Commissioners they next beseech To give the County guarantee, Two hundred thousand dollars, free,

Commissioners they next beseech To give the County guarantee, Two hundred thousand dollars, free, (Meaning their own, be't understood.)

But, as of old, black Lucifer A rookery in heaven did stir, A mischief-making clan combine Against the Whigs to countermine,

At length, to prove themselves supreme, (And have their platters all licked clean,) John Baum & Co. post up a call: "To New Berlin, O hasten all,

The Railway safe—now (quoth the wise) A fine new Court House shall arise, Its spire high point in upward space, And pillars grand its front shall grace,

But not, alas for town ring pride! Could this bright prospect long abide, The slumbering people rubbed their eyes,

Those towns will furnish, strong and neat, The buildings for a county seat. The common weal, divorce demands, And now we ask it at your hands."

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The cause is plain—they all prefer A town of generous character, That thinks good custom worth the paying, And not that backs were made for flaying.

By tricks and falsehood doubly dyed, The people's will was twice denied; But, broken slaves, and Pollack there, New Berlin cried out in despair.

Her warriors hast'ning homeward late, Began Longtown to luminare— So sure were they their cause was won, Secure the "screw" had begun.

Black is a thunder-cloud at even, And black old Nick would be in heaven, Black th' Ethiopian at midnight, And black the ink with which I write,

At Lewisburg the site shall be As in year fifty-six we'll see, Its well-laid streets, its buildings firm, Its mills, its foundries, college halls,

—My song is ended; I've no blarney— WILS. McALARNEY.

reform. private and particu- post-office. We all waste precious time, mper, over the per- ects of our postal

the country. We less in extent and they really are. Mr. tal Reform ought Miles has resided, and he has been wvn Post-office De- fore, speaks of that and the results of

Miles, we are now an which worries injures the public, and, and pleases no- various European Great Britain, are al system which

of all our red- agared to deliver Fourth of July. es of the United rying 120,000,000 so millions of dol- the receipts of the letters, about four ty, died, and were Washington city. he expenses of the nveying 450,000, so six millions of e receipts of the De- letters rather less dy died, and were hances of revival,

with a populat- sillion, had to con- office—and that ate den, far from don, with a popu- was served by

at some two hun- of New York ice as to be not respect, than the ry district which eek! "ers," or those t amounted to at, brought in a "drop letters" of d numbered 74, ny each, brought 0, of which sum profit!

in London he has a distant part a reply within ork if such ar post? ent himself with e, the senseless rprepayment, or stration system; t the only cond- ope for a decent, et-office, are the son of franking- t-postage of two and a uniform ,ing all letters. iving-offices in ethod of remit- money-orders. e owners of all calls upon our ,men generally, ater, with decis- th all our heart; ot despair of the mmon sense.—

The untiring in- who is deputy mon Schools in f the system in y gratifying Besides per- ing upon him at uer, he is con- sulting the law, and Directors, Teach- arevere in the universally con- no one has been post, than Mr. y, sing for the ad Mad Jenny in Vovey, a l. But before concert arrived, arse and could ot wait a day," at them 2000

ere, last week, drank a pint of ut three hours.

The State Teachers' Association met in Philadelphia last week, and was well attended. The meeting of the Association was brought to a close on Friday evening by a splendid banquet, prepared by the friends of education in Philada.

The Missouri Legislature has adjourned, after passing not less than 770 acts. Among them was one to loan to the Pacific Railroad Company the sum of \$250,000 for four months, to meet the immediate wants of the Company; and another which prevents the selling or giving away of liquor on Sunday, on penalty of forfeiture of license, and inability to obtain a new one for two years.

One-half of ugliness is caused by want of ventilation. The less oxygen in a room, the more dark becomes our blood; and the darker our blood becomes, the more we take to irritation and ill-nature. The only reason that printers are more crabbed than other folks, is because they allow a big coal stove to rob them of their share of oxygen.

HERMAPHRODITERY.—"O, ma, look!" said a little girl walking to church, pointing to some one before them, "there's a woman with a hat on! and see, she's got on boots, too—isn't that what they call a 'strong-minded woman'?" "Hush! my child—no, that's only a weak-minded man with a shawl on!"

GEN. SHIELDS.—In response to an invitation from the Shields Guards of Chicago to be present at their annual ball, Gen. Shields, writing from Gairbault, Rice county, Minnesota, states that it is impossible for him to attend, his "whole time and energy being employed at present in commencing the world anew."

In the French army, the soldiers during the winter, wear wooden bottom shoes. The result is, that the French army is less afflicted with toothache and rheumatism than any army in the world. A wooden bottom shoe is always dry—a fact that should always give them preference.

It is strange that any family, as a measure of economy, should be without a newspaper. Children see the world cheaply at home, in a newspaper, without the danger of bad association or the expense of travel.—Richmond Express.

THE FARM: The Garden—The Orchard.

Deterioration of our Domestic Fowls BY INTRODUCING FOREIGN SPECIES. The small amount of poultry exhibited at nearly all the agricultural exhibitions during the past season, satisfactorily proves that the strange mania which of late years has manifested itself for unnatural crosses in our domestic fowls, and which has been so appropriately designated as the "Hen Fever," has at last run out. Its effects, however, we fear, are destined to remain for some time in a deterioration of our native stock, and the introduction of a hybrid, or cross breed, inferior in every respect to their progenitors.

This subject has recently been brought before the Boston Society of Natural History by Dr. Kneeland, well-known as a naturalist and physiologist. He states that it is at the present time a general source of complaint all over the Eastern States, (and the same is doubtless true elsewhere,) on the part of the farmers, who in times past had plenty of eggs and to spare from a small number of common fowls, that since the general introduction of the foreign breeds, they have found themselves with their "improved stock" unable to procure any thing like their usual supply of eggs from the same number of birds; and that they have not only raised the birds at the expense of several dollars a pound, but have been obliged to buy eggs for family use. This has become such a source of annoyance and pecuniary loss, that it deserves to be considered. It is a natural consequence of forcing birds from different countries and of different origins to propagate a hybrid offspring, for this very reason prone to degeneration, which is increased by the impossibility of crossing the hybrids by the supposed pure originals. The admixture of different original species, and breeding "in and in," have been carried beyond the

limits fixed by nature, and deterioration is the result.

Such a conclusion was indeed to have been expected, since it is a principle which it may be considered as well established in natural history, that different species will not produce fertile offspring. The proof of this, says Dr. Kneeland, may be found, "in any part of the animal scale from a barnyard monster to a mulatto; they cannot hold their own; they must and do return to one or the other of the primitive stocks, or must die out, unless crossed by the pure originating blood."

Dr. Kneeland further illustrates this tendency to sterility by the crossing of distinct species, by reference to the present condition of the mulattoes. He says: "The mulatto is often triumphantly appealed to as a proof that hybrid races are prolific without end. Every physician who has seen much practice among the mulattoes knows that, in the first place, they are far less prolific than the blacks or whites; the statistics of New York State and City confirm this fact of daily observation; and in the second place, when they are prolific, the progeny is frail, diseased, short-lived, rarely arriving at robust manhood or maturity. Physicians need not be told of the comparatively enormous amount of scrofulous and deteriorated constitutions found among these hybrids."

To return to the subject of our domestic fowls. That a great deterioration has taken place wherever the foreign breeds have been extensively introduced, we think every intelligent observer will sustain us in asserting. The question then is, what is the remedy? In the space of time nature will again replace matters in their former order,—the hybrids without a constant foreign importation will die out in time, and the native stock in its purity again be in the ascendant. But we can do something to hasten matters. As this is the season when every farmer naturally expects to thin out his poultry-yard in some degree, we would advise that every representative of the East Indian fowls be extirpated, root and branch, so far as possible, and a return be then made to our native stock, yellow and blue-legged hens, whose good qualities have been abundantly proved and never found wanting. That these may be still further improved by a judicious breeding among themselves hardly admits of a doubt, and opens a fair and profitable field for the amateur.—Farm Journal.

Home-Made Guano. It is not, perhaps, generally known that the deposits of the hen-house, when suffered to accumulate for several years, without exposure to wet, are very nearly of the same nature as the African and Peruvian guano, of which so much has been said. It is concentrated and caustic manure, and should never be applied to crops, without being largely diluted with loam or other substance, to reduce its strength by diffusion, as it will invariably prove detrimental, if not destructive in its effects. If it be thrown into a heap with six times its bulk of muck, or of good loam, and moistened with water, it will be found highly efficient in promoting the growth and healthy development of any plant to which it may be applied; but it should never be used in its raw and caustic state. A few bushels of this manure, properly diluted and prepared, will be found to produce the results secured by a vastly larger amount of the best stable or barnyard manure. For vines and garden vegetables it is altogether unsurpassed.

In a recent discussion upon the profits of poultry, evidence was adduced by two or three persons, that the manure from the hen-house produced better results on crops than any other fertilizer used on the farm. In one instance, where about one hundred fowls were kept, sand—mere granular sand—was scattered plentifully on the floor, and upon which the droppings fell. Two or three times a week the surface of this was carefully swept, gathering up a portion of the sand with the droppings, and depositing the whole in barrels. In the spring this was in the most convenient form to be taken to the fields and applied to the hills where corn was to be planted, and on a large field where excellent barnyard manure was applied at the rate of twenty ox-cart loads, or about eight cords per acre, the portion where a single handful of the home-made guano had been applied was altogether stouter, and the corn earlier and more sound. But, independently of this source of profit from fowls, the discussion to which we refer afforded satisfactory proof to us, that no product of the farm yields a better profit than its fowls.—New-England Farmer.

SHARPENING ENGIN TOOLS.—We translate the following from a German scientific journal for the benefit of our mechanics and agricultural laborers: "It has long been known that the simplest method of sharpening a razor is to put it for half an hour in water to which has been added one-twentieth of its weight of muriatic acid, then lightly wipe it off, and after a few hours set it on a hone. The acid here supplies the place of a whetstone by corroding the whole surface uniformly, so that nothing further but a smooth polish is necessary. The process never injures good blades, while badly hardened ones are frequently improved by it, although the cause of such improvement remains unexplained."

"Of late this process has been applied to many other cutting implements. The workman at the beginning of his noon-sleep, or when he leaves off in the evening, moistens the blades of his tools with water acidified as above, the cost of which, is almost nothing. This saves the consumption of time and labor in whetting, which moreover wears out the blades. The mode of sharpening here indicated would be found especially advantageous for sickles and scythes.

No rules have been found necessary for our government, save that of kindness to each other, and deference to conflicting opinions. We have been thus associated more than twelve years, with the interest unabated. Each member, and I may add each member's wife, is fully convinced of the great usefulness and good social feeling engendered by its establishment. A MEMBER.

From the Germantown Telegraph. Hog Manure. Of all the manurial substances made and applied on the farm, none is possessed of greater or more permanent value than the excrement of swine. No matter to what purpose it is applied, its results are always such as to sustain its reputation as a salutary and energetic fertilizer. For Indian corn, melons, and pivoting crops, as well as for the whole family of cereals